## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 476 By Bowers

A RESOLUTION to honor the recipients of the Rotary Award for Teacher Excellence.

WHEREAS, it is the great pleasure of this General Assembly to pay tribute to those educators who have worked diligently to prepare the young people of Tennessee to make a difference in our state, nation, and world; and

WHEREAS, the recipients of the Memphis Rotary Club's Award for Teacher Excellence set a remarkable example for other teachers to follow and are a source of constant inspiration for their students; and

WHEREAS, evaluated on their professionalism, academic achievement, teaching skills, and dedication to children, these ten Memphis teachers are all extremely deserving and hardworking professionals; and

WHEREAS, a Latin teacher at Central High School, Lischa Brooks is a scholar who succeeds at making Latin classes lively and stimulating; she has also demonstrated a heart for helping students deal with academic issues that can impede their progress; and

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WHEREAS, a teacher of AVID and Diversified Technology at Mitchell High School, Sheri Catron is energetic and dedicated, and has been effective at reaching underachieving students through creative teaching strategies and positive reinforcement; and

WHEREAS, a teacher of Orff Music at the Snowden School, Karen Gephart is a talented musician who has shared her gift with Memphis school children for almost two decades, and has inspired and taught numerous students to become musicians themselves; and

WHEREAS, a Spanish teacher at Cypress Middle School and the Snowden School,

Myra Govea de Arce is an animated and enthusiastic teacher who holds a doctoral degree; she

develops Spanish curricula for schools in the Memphis area; and

WHEREAS, a school counselor for Raleigh Egypt Middle School, Georgia Hobbs was recently named "Middle School Counselor of the Year" in Memphis; she uses a variety of resources- including role-playing, writing, and animal therapy- to help students become more successful; and

WHEREAS, a Science teacher at Graceland Elementary School, Yvonne Jenious leads her students in hands-on, inquiry-based activities that make learning science fun; she has also been recognized for her ability to get parents more involved in their children's schoolwork; and

WHEREAS, a third grade teacher at Cordova Elementary School, Melissa Lonneman is a cheerful and patient teacher who is well-loved by her students and praised by her peers for her well-planned, imaginative lessons that address individual learning styles; and

WHEREAS, a School Counselor at Graceland Elementary School, Jan Lynch is a veteran educator who has helped implement numerous programs designed to motivate students; she models respect for all students and helps young people believe in their abilities; and

WHEREAS, a French teacher at Ridgeway High School, Rachel Markovitz is a Phi Beta Kappa college graduate who sets high standards for her students and helps them "live the

- 2 - 00675184

language" through engaging instruction and challenging projects involving French language and culture; and

WHEREAS, a Special Education teacher at Ida B. Wells Academy, Judy Peebles is a true believer that all children can learn, and she has worked tirelessly to make her classroom and school a place where students can reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, each of these honorees exemplify the high quality of Tennessee's educators and schools; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should honor these dedicated and talented teachers for their selfless commitment to Tennessee's youth; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate the Memphis recipients of the 2003 Rotary Award for Teacher Excellence, salute their commitment to providing quality education, and wish them the best in their every future endeavor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

- 3 - 00675184